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PLAYWRIGHT EXAMINES GILLESPIE GIGS PAGE 12

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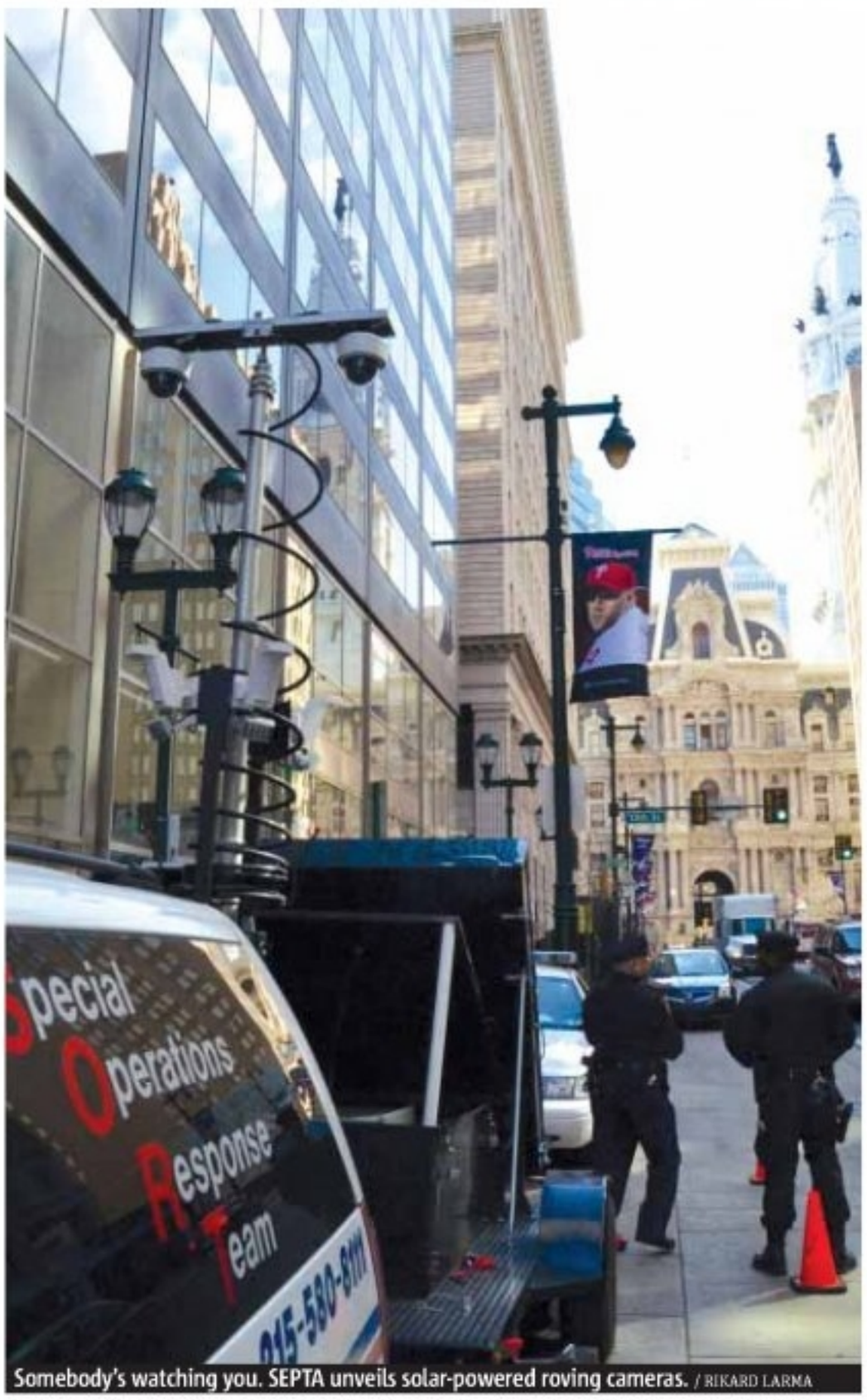

Somebody's watching you. SEPTA unveils solar-powered roving cameras. / RIKARD LARMA

EYE IN THE SKY

Surveillance. Solar-powered cameras will watch rail yards, parking lots and more to provide extra safety. PAGE 02

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1
NEWS

SEPTA rolls out first mobile camera unit

Big Brother. The solar-powered camera will allow SEPTA officers to monitor large and remote properties.

SEPTA yesterday rolled out its first mobile surveillance unit. "We have yards and stations, larger footprint properties, and we can take that mobile surveillance camera 18 to 30 feet and position it to provide real-time surveillance capabilities anywhere on our properties," spokeswoman Jerri Williams said.

The acquisition is part of SEPTA's push to beef up its system to include 24,000 cameras by 2015. Williams said most of the agency's trains have cameras, but many of its large lots don't.

"So say we're building new construction or we have our trains sitting out, and they're being graffitied," she said. "We now have the capability of taking this mobile surveillance unit and deploying it out to that remote location." Officers can monitor the feed.

Williams said when it comes to the camera, size doesn't matter. "Some people may look at it and say, 'It's pretty big, people may see that.' Well, that's good. If you're planning on committing a theft or vandalism on our property, it might make you think twice."

By the numbers

- 12,000 to 15,000 surveillance cameras are in SEPTA's system now.
- The agency aims to have 24,000 cameras by 2015.
- Two-thirds of SEPTA buses have cameras.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Play it long, play it loud: Jafar Barron serenades in Rittenhouse

Jafar Barron plays the cornet on a blustery Rittenhouse Square yesterday. Barron said he started playing the jazz trumpet in grade school. He's recorded with Erykah Badu and the late Gil Scott-Heron. Temperatures dropped about 20 degrees from Monday to Tuesday in the city, so the park was mostly empty. But Barron entertained the occasional passer-by. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

By the numbers

2

Two people were killed and 160 others were injured in the 455 crashes in Pennsylvania during the three-day Easter holiday, state police said. During the three-day period, which spanned Friday through Sunday, state police issued 5,563 speeding citations, charged 321 people with driving under the influence, cited 550 individuals for not wearing seat belts, and ticketed 63 motorists for not securing children in safety seats. During the 2012 Easter driving period, which covered April 6-8, three were killed and 196 others were injured in 470 crashes investigated by troopers.

Local Tweet

"I feel like ppl are generally more attractive in spring haha #justanobservation"

—@JrealDizzy, Philadelphian Johannes Dzidzienyo, on the warm weekend ahead

Crackdown. Officials aim for stricter gun laws in Philadelphia

State Sen. Larry Farnese and Rep. John Taylor will introduce laws instating a mandatory two-year minimum jail sentence for illegal gun possession in the city.

The measure was drafted with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office.

"My intent in offering this proposal is to replicate in Philadelphia the same level of success achieved in New York, where violent crime has been reduced overall and shootings have fallen to the lowest levels in nearly two decades," Taylor said in a memo. **METRO**

Guns on display
RIKARD LARMA

Dip. Herr's delivery truck stolen outside Northeast 7-Eleven

Someone in Northeast Philly made Herr's theirs.

A Herr's snacks delivery truck was stolen outside a 7-Eleven convenience store yesterday morning in the Frankford section as the driver made a delivery, police said.

The driver entered the store, at Bridge and Large streets, around 7:30 a.m. and left the keys in the ignition. As he dropped off the snacks, someone jumped into the truck and drove off.

The delivery truck and the thief are still on the loose, police said. **METRO**

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Drexel University one of seven tapped for crisis pilot program

Safety. The Philadelphia university will participate in the Campus Resilience program, which will focus on disaster preparedness.

Janet Napolitano
GETTY IMAGES

Drexel University was selected as a test campus for a pilot safety program, federal officials announced yesterday.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano spoke at the college yesterday, confirming the West Philly campus as one of seven universities chosen to participate in the Campus Resilience pilot program.

The initiative intends to help colleges develop innovative ideas and approaches to handling disaster situations.

The goal, Napolitano said, is for the select colleges and universities to help "develop best practices, resources and tools needed to assist campus communities nationwide in their efforts to reduce gun violence on campuses and bolster resilience and emergency planning processes for all types of hazards.

"This is an important step in our work with the academic community to help campuses prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate crisis and emergency situations," Napolitano said.

TOMMY ROWAN
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Historically recognized

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission approved four new historical markers to be erected outside landmarks in Philadelphia County. One of the new markers is at Old St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, above. Other sites include Pennepack Baptist Church, Walter M. Golaski's home and Wood Street Riverbank Steps. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Naked

Police find, arrest naked man riding stolen bike

A Berks County man was caught by police Sunday riding a bike naked, according to the Reading Eagle. Steven Rosario, 19, allegedly assaulted a man and stole his bike around 2:45 a.m. METRO

Slashed

Motorist slashes police officer during traffic stop

A motorist cut a Philadelphia police officer across his head during a traffic stop early Tuesday in Kensington. The motorist was arrested and charged with assault. NBC reports the officer will be fine. METRO

Jefferson University Hospitals

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The Jefferson Vascular Center is Offering a FREE Vascular Screening Program to Individuals at Risk.

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- Tuesday, April 16, 6 to 8 p.m., Lobby
  - ~ Educational presentations by Jefferson Vascular Center specialists
  - ~ Light refreshments
- Wednesday, April 17, 5:30 to 8 p.m., Suite 100
  - ~ Vascular ultrasound screenings to detect carotid artery stenosis, abdominal aortic aneurysm, hypertension and peripheral vascular disease

Who is eligible to participate?

- Anyone 60 years or over
- Anyone 50 years or older who also has high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes or a history of smoking
- Individuals not currently under the care of a vascular specialist

Registration:
Call **1-800-JEFF-NOW**. Registration is required. Space is limited.
For more information, **www.JeffersonHospital.org/daretocare**

Presented in coordination with Dare to C.A.R.E., a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives through vascular disease prevention and education.

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For more information, call toll free **1.888.442.9012**

Are you suffering from knee pain caused by osteoarthritis?

If so, please contact us about our research study of an investigational medication.

Qualified participants must:
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have had osteoarthritis of the knee for at least 6 months
- Be taking a non-opioid drug regularly for osteoarthritis knee pain, but without adequate relief

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- Study-related care and study medication at no cost
- Compensation up to $500

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Police, fire step on scale for a cause

TMI about BMI.
The police and fire departments face off in a weight-loss challenge.

Put down the snacks and hop on the treadmill: Philadelphia emergency officials have a competition to win.

Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers and Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey weighed themselves publicly yesterday in the ceremonial kick-off to the annual Weight Watchers Battle of the Badges.

The challenge pits the men and women of Philadelphia's police and fire departments against each other to find out which agency can shed the most pounds.

This is the 27th year that the two departments have squared off in the 13-week competition. The score is tied: Each department has won the contest 13 times.

Weight Watchers will donate $10,000 in the name of the skinniest department to the Hero Thrill Show, according to news release.

The Hero Thrill Show provides scholarship funds for children of Philadelphia firefighters and police officers killed or disabled in the line of duty, according to the news release.

METRO

"I weigh how much?" / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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Veto?

Sick leave veto looms

Mayor Michael Nutter has until tomorrow to veto the paid sick leave bill passed by the City Council.

"This law will prevent workers from getting fired for doing the right thing and staying away from the restaurant when they are sick," cook Michael Cockrill said in a Restaurant Opportunities Center statement.

METRO

Stealing

Prison guard allegedly stole from inmate

A George W. Hill Correctional Facility guard was charged with stealing $72 from a prisoner when he was admitted in 2012, the Delaware Co. prosecutor said.

Michael Siler, 45, of Upper Darby, handed the inmate a receipt but never deposited the cash.

METRO

The master of the mix

Philadelphia's own DJ Royale, left, welcomed guests to the premiere viewing of VH1's "Master of The Mix" Season 3 this week at Ten Six Club. DJ Royale is in the DJ competition. He made it through the first round of the competition and will appear in episode two, airing next week. Shown here are DJ Royale with Sonny James, aka DJ Statik. / AARON RAYSOR

The panel also called for adoption of a model state law for armed school staffers. / GETTY IMAGES

NRA-funded proposal for armed guards

School safety. Under a proposal funded by the NRA, every US school would have armed, trained personnel.

A study funded by the National Rifle Association released yesterday proposes that armed personnel be stationed in every U.S. school in response to December's school massacre in Newtown, Conn.

The proposal of the National School Shield Task Force also includes security accords between schools and law enforcement, an online safety assessment tool for schools, state safety standards and improved federal coordination for school safety.

Asa Hutchinson, the panel's director, said having a trained and armed security officer or staff member in each school was a key element of the proposal.

"Obviously, we believe they will make a difference in the various layers that make up school safety," Hutchinson, a former congressman, said at a news conference held under heavy security.

Security officers and staffers would need 40 to 60 hours of training that would cost $800 to $1,000 each.

The NRA paid $1 million for the 225-page study. REUTERS

Legislative deal

Connecticut gets tough gun control

Legislative leaders in Connecticut said on Monday they had agreed to some of the toughest gun regulations in the nation and expected to adopt them this week.

The proposal, which is expected to pass both houses of the state legislature this week, includes background checks for private gun sales and a ban on sales of high-capacity magazines. REUTERS

Global arms

UN approves first global arms trade treaty

The 193-nation U.N. General Assembly overwhelmingly approved yesterday the first-ever treaty on global arms trade that seeks to regulate the $70 billion international business in conventional arms ranging from light weapons to battle tanks and warships.

There were 154 votes in favor, three against and 23 abstentions.

Iran, Syria and North Korea last week prevented a treaty-drafting conference at U.N. headquarters from reaching the required consensus to adopt the treaty. That left delegations that support it no choice but to turn to a General Assembly vote to adopt it.

The Iranian, Syrian and North Korean delegations cast the sole votes against the treaty. REUTERS

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Terrorism. McCain: US wants to help fight al Qaeda in Mali

The United States will seek ways that it can assist French and African forces fighting al Qaeda-linked rebels in Mali, U.S. Sen. John McCain said yesterday during a visit to the West African country.

France launched a military offensive in Mali in January against Islamist militants threatening the capital.

That drove the insurgents out of the towns they had already seized, but they have since hit back with both suicide attacks and guerrilla-style raids.

Western powers are concerned that Mali's vast and lawless Saharan desert could become a launchpad for international militant attacks.

REUTERS

Research

Barack Obama launches brain study initiative

The White House unveiled details of a new initiative to study the human brain with the goal of creating effective treatments for Alzheimer's disease and other cognitive disorders.

Called the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies Initiative, the program aims to help researchers see how brain cells and neural circuits interact through technology that produces "dynamic pictures" of the brain. REUTERS

North Korea to restart its plutonium reactor

South Korean conservative activists hold placards showing a portrait of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un during a protest. / GETTY IMAGES

Nuclear threats. KCNA: All civilian, military nuclear activities to resume.

North Korea said on Tuesday it would revive a mothballed nuclear reactor able to produce bomb-grade plutonium, but stressed it was seeking a deterrent capacity and did not repeat recent threats to attack South Korea and the United States.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the North Korean crisis had gone too far and appealed for dialogue and negotiation to resolve the situation.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, said another guided-missile destroyer had taken position in the western Pacific to assist with missile defense, as tensions with North Korea rise.

The crisis flared after Pyongyang was hit with U.N. sanctions for conducting a third nuclear test in February, followed by joint military drills between the United States and South Korea that North Korea viewed as "hostile."

REUTERS

Quoted

"Nuclear threats are not a game. Aggressive rhetoric and military posturing only result in counter-actions, and fuel fear and instability."

Ban, a South Korean
told a news conference during a visit to Andorra

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Apology. Sorry Apple gets respect in China after tabloid trial

With its rare apology, Apple Inc. went from pariah to praiseworthy in the eyes of China's state-controlled media, a lesson for other foreign firms not to underestimate the speed and power of the government press.

After coming under near-daily media assault for the past two weeks and facing the threat of penalties from two Chinese government bureaus, Apple apologized to Chinese consumers on Monday for poor communication over its warranty policy and said it will change the terms for some of its iPhones sold in China.

The Chinese newspapers that threw brickbats at Apple a few days ago have since changed their tune.

The Foreign Ministry praised Apple for "conscientiously" responding to consumers' demands.

"We approve of what Apple said," spokesman Hong Lei told reporters during a daily news briefing yesterday.

Only last week, the People's Daily issued a scathing editorial on Apple's return policy, saying the popular smartphone maker was filled with "unparalleled arrogance". **REUTERS**

Quoted

"The company's apology letter has eased the situation, softening the tense relationship between Apple and the Chinese market."

Global Times
published by Communist Party mouthpiece the People's Daily

European states take aim at Google privacy

Google says its approach to user data complies with the law.
GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"Regulators in six states have begun the process of looking at penalties, and each must now act based on national law."

Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin, CNIL's president, in an interview

Data. EU regulators see policy as 'high risk' to user privacy.

European regulators moved a step closer to penalizing Google for the way it handles user data after the search engine giant refused to change its privacy policy.

France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Britain said yesterday they began a process to decide if Google's policy introduced in March 2012 broke national laws.

Google consolidated 60 privacy policies into one last year and started combining data collected on individual users across its services, such as YouTube, Gmail and social network Google+. It gave users no means to opt out.

Twenty-nine European data protection regulators began a joint inquiry as a result.

The inquiry, led by the French privacy protection group CNIL, found in October that Google's new policy posed a "high risk" to the privacy of individuals, although it stopped short of declaring it illegal.

The regulators gave Google until February to propose changes, but the search engine giant did not make any after a March 19 meeting with national regulators.

The six countries have the power to impose fines on Google, but each must go through a local inquiry to determine that a wrong had been committed under national law even after the European joint position published in October. **REUTERS**

Weighed Down by Weight Issues?

Bariatric surgery may be the answer.

"As a single mother, the most important thing is to be there for my son. It was hard for me to admit that, when it came to my weight, I might need someone supporting me. After years of struggling with the ups and downs of ineffective dieting, I made the decision to go to Jefferson. Their Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery team made me feel completely comfortable and have continued to be my biggest cheerleader, with monthly support groups that have helped me lose – and keep off – 115 pounds. It's great to know that I am healthy enough to be there for my son. And that Jefferson will be there for me."

Read my entire story and register to attend one of the free seminars listed below at *jeffersonhospital.org/myweightloss*

Jefferson at Voorhees: April 23

Jefferson's Methodist Hospital: April 9 and 30

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1 Khloe Kardashian & Lamar Odom charity scandal

On the spectrum of "not good things," this ranks pretty much at the top: Lamar Odom and Khloe Kardashian's charity for kids with cancer looks like it's a scam. That's right: They are fleecing kids with cancer. The only thing worse than swindling cancer-stricken children? Scamming kids with AIDS. There's nothing worse. (Maybe scamming orphans with AIDS and/or cancer, but really, that's it.)

A new report by ESPN says that Odom's charity, Cathy's Kids, which started in 2004 in honor of Odom's mother, has raised $2.2 million, but not one cent has gone to cancer-related causes. Instead, it has gone to the charity's "executive," Jerry DeGregorio, who was the best man in Odom's wedding as well as two elite youth basketball travel teams. When approached by ESPN, Odom brushed off the allegations with, "It's my money."

Actually, nope. If you raise $2.2 million by having people donate their cash to help sick children, it's not your money.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Mayer zips his lips (for once)

John Mayer seems to have turned over a new leaf when it comes to dishing on exes. In an interview with Ellen DeGeneres, he didn't rise to her attempts to discuss his split from Katy Perry: "It was a very private relationship going in, it was a private relationship during and it's a private relationship still. ... I'm on the same journey as everyone else. Coupling is a tricky thing."

Berry and Martinez fight paparazzi

Halle Berry and fiance Olivier Martinez had a rough homecoming after a Hawaiian vacation when Martinez got into a scuffle with paparazzi outside LAX, according to TMZ. Martinez allegedly kicked a photographer in the leg and wrist as he, Berry and Berry's daughter tried to exit the airport.

Lohan is in Brazil and jokes that she is pregnant

Lindsay Lohan made a very last-minute decision to continue her adventures in Brazil this week, making her way to the Sao Paulo airport for a flight back to New York, only to opt out of getting on the plane, according to E! News. While her manager took the flight as planned, Lohan reportedly checked herself into the Emiliano Hotel alone with a female friend. "She's staying on her own dime," a source says. "She is staying against everyone's advice." Lohan's promotional trip to Brazil for a denim company was to be followed by a quick trip to NYC before heading to L.A. for the Coachella Music Festival and then 90 days of court-ordered rehab. Lohan also pulled an April Fools' prank on her Twitter followers, posting, "It's official. Pregnant..." and drawing a flood of shocked reactions. Maybe some of her fans didn't realize it was a joke because, on the East Coast at least, it was no longer April 1.

'Finding Dory' to hit theaters in 2015

Nemo was found, but what about Dory, his funny and forgetful friend? It was announced yesterday that "Finding Dory" will be released in theaters on Nov. 25, 2015, by Pixar. "I have waited for this day for a long, long, long, long, long, long time," said Ellen DeGeneres, who voiced the blue tang fish in the original "Finding Nemo." "I'm not mad it took this long. I know the people at Pixar were busy creating 'Toy Story 16.' But the time they took was worth it. The script is fantastic. And it has everything I loved about the first one: It's got a lot of heart, it's really funny, and the best part is — it's got a lot more Dory."

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Bryan Singer may have upset a few "X-Men" fans with his April Fools' joke, Neil Patrick Harris is on quite the adventure, Jim Carrey feels appreciated and Lena Dunham is feeling the march of time.

@BryanSinger: I can finally announce @ladygaga is joining #XMen #DaysofFuturePast as Dazzler. One of my all-time favorite characters. Can't wait!

@ActuallyNPH: My b'day is 6/15. @Davidburtka threw a surprise party for me on Saturday -blown away. I'm now on some lengthy treasure hunt that is unreal!

@JimCarrey: I get it. Your love for me is unconditional. The message couldn't be clearer!

@lenadunham: Sad day. Realized I'm old enough that my go-to April Fools "I'm Pregnant!" is no longer that disturbing.

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Dizzy Gillespie, pictured in a bebop mood. / WILLIAM GOTTLIEB

A 'young lion' in Philly changed the music scene

Music. Dizzy Gillespie shakes up the jazz world in "Last Call at the Downbeat."

A young Dizzy Gillespie was about to shake the core of the jazz world when he came to Philadelphia for a nine-week stand at the Downbeat Club in 1941. The moment is captured in Suzanne Cloud's new play, "Last Call at the Downbeat," which debuts April 5 at the Red Room of the Society Hill Playhouse.

The play is part of the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts.

"In 1941, he was a young lion moving away from the big bands and into more improvisation — you couldn't improvise in a band," says Cloud, a jazz performer, educator and journalist. "He was a younger cat who was moving into a smaller group with the new ideas of rhythm and the changing role of the drums, the changing role of the bass and the new harmonies."

Gillespie was a North Carolina native whose family moved to Philadelphia in the 1930s. He played his trumpet in several late '30s and early '40s big bands, including Cab Calloway's orchestra, before setting off on his own. Along with Charlie Parker, he led jazz away from the swing era and into the more challenging, and at the time radical, bebop of the '40s and '50s.

Beyond the music, Gillespie was a example of a new type of African American — bold, talented and forthright in an era when it was dangerous to be so.

Gillespie also became an ambassador for the State Department. He took a band on an official tour of the Middle East, as he grew into an icon of 20th-century music and American culture.

If you go

The Jazz Bridge production of "Last Call at the Downbeat"

April 5, 6, 12, 13
Red Room of the Society Hill Playhouse
507 S. Eighth St.
$25, 610-745-3011
www.jazzbridge.org

In a sense, it all began at the Downbeat in November 1941. The club was a landmark at 11th and Ludlow near the Earle Theater, where Gillespie was previously fired by bandleader Lucky Millender.

"Last Call at the Downbeat," starring Erin Fleming as Gillespie, will feature the music of trumpeter Duane Eubanks and his band and the filmed recollections of 93-year-old drummer Charlie Rice, the lone surviving member of the Downbeat house band. Rice will also participate in a discussion following the Saturday shows.

"It's the story of jazz in Philadelphia," Cloud says.

CHRIS JORDAN
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2 REEL ABILITIES PHILLY DISABILITIES FILM FESTIVAL

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Be a cool cat at these Jazz Month concerts

Music. Nonprofit Jazz Bridge hosts a local series of hep nights, daddy-o.

Jazz violinist Diane Monroe will play in Media on April 17.
/ JAZZ BRIDGE

When jazz and blues players are in a bind, they can call on Jazz Bridge, a nonprofit that helps out in times of emergency. The group has a lineup of Jazz Month concerts starting tonight. All events are $10 ($5 for students) and start at 7:30 p.m.

April 3

Singer Denise Montana
Hosted by Dave Posmontier
Cheltenham Center for the Arts
439 Ashbourne Road, Cheltenham

Drummer Eddie Jones
Hosted by Barbara Montgomery
Kennett Flash
102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square

April 4

Harpist Gloria Galante
Hosted by Suzanne Cloud
Collingswood Community Center
30 E. Collings Ave.
Collingswood, N.J.

April 17

Vibist Tony Miceli and violinist Diane Monroe
Hosted by Denise Montana
Unitarian Universalist Church
145 W. Rose Tree Road, Media

April 18

Guitarist Greg Matthews
Hosted by Mike Boone
Arch Street Friends
4th and Arch streets

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Dinocroc will challenge supergator, for science

Film. The Academy of Natural Sciences hosts its Mega-Bad Movie Night.

Scientists weigh in on bad movies at Mega-Bad Movie Night.
ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

What happens when gigantic, laboratory-engineered reptiles escape? There's only one way to find out.

Don't worry, no need to don your white coat and start splicing. "Dinocroc vs. Supergator" plays out this scenario for you, in all its schlocky glory. The movie will be screened tomorrow night at the Academy of Natural Sciences, with experts pointing out — "Mystery Science Theater 3000"-style — exactly where the movie's producers got their scientific facts horribly wrong.

"We choose bad movies on purpose, so there's something for us to teach about," says Jill Sybesma, adult programs coordinator. Emphasis on adult: The screening is open only to those 18 and over.

Since 2010, the academy has hosted Mega-Bad Movie Night a few times a year. The idea is to poke fun at the movies, Sybesma says, but also to educate moviegoers in an entertaining way.

In addition to "Dinocroc vs. Supergator," all of the academy's exhibits will be open, live animals will be brought out, and scientific specimens related to the movie will be on display. "This time we'll be bringing out anything crocodilian-related, so skulls, skins, eggs, various types of crocodiles and alligators," says Sybesma.

And if all those alligator eggs make you hungry, head over to the complimentary snack table. Or hit up the cash bar.

Tickets include access to Butterflies!, a permanent exhibit featuring as many as 40 different species. Butterflies only live a week or two, so the display is constantly rotating.

If you go

Mega-Bad Movie Night

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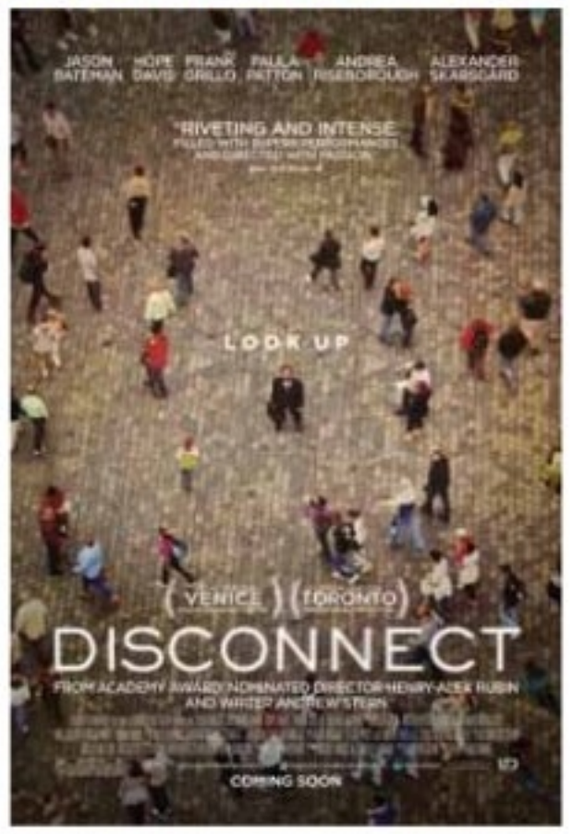

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DOCUMENTARY

'Lunarcy'

A documentary about people loony for Luna, including a would-be moon resident and an entrepreneur who has sold pieces of the moon. **8 P.M., EPIX**

DRAMA

'Spies of Warsaw'

Based on New York Times bestselling author Alan Furst's novel, this story whisks viewers to pre-WWII Paris, London and Warsaw. **9 P.M., BBC AMERICA**

COMEDY

'How to Live with Your Parents (For the Rest of Your Life)'

A helicopter mom and her daughter move in with her hippie-dippie parents. Do you think they'll disagree on parenting methods? **SERIES PREMIERE, 9:30 P.M., ABC**

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BRANDY FALLS PREY TO TYLER PERRY'S 'TEMPTATION'

The successful singer and TV star teams up with Tyler Perry for a cautionary tale that's more grown-up than his usual Madea-led fare.

She's had platinum-selling records, a hit TV show and numerous film roles, but it's the chance to star in a Tyler Perry movie that has Brandy Norwood excited. Metro caught up with the star of Perry's latest film, "Temptation," to talk about that chance, as well as what it is that makes Perry's movies so incredibly popular.

After living the Tyler Perry experience, what do you think makes him such a buzzed-about filmmaker?
I think it's his heart, spirit and honesty. I think he's relatable, and it just feels like he's hung out in all of these areas and 'hoods. Every one of his films, you feel like you know a person like the characters in your life. I think that's what makes him so powerful. On top of that, he's so humble, down to earth and appreciative of everything that he has accomplished. He's not afraid to give that back and to help others. He opens the door for so many people, and I'm one of them.

What does it mean to you personally to be in a Tyler Perry movie?
Personally, it's everything because I'm a fan. I started off watching the plays on DVD. So it's a dream come true to be in a movie that he's directing, a movie that he's written, and then to be a part of something so powerful. It's a blessing.

You mentioned how powerful the film is, but what struck you the most when you first read the script?
It was the subject matter. I felt like so many people have these battles in their relationships and not following that inner voice — that intuition that's telling you, "No!" It's that battle of the mind over the heart. The mind is telling you, "You shouldn't do this." Also, people get confused what running is instead of what confronting is. Sometimes people feel like when you run away from your past or when you run away from the things that you don't want to face, you're being strong or you're being brave. You're not. You're being a coward. It touches on that, especially with my character.

You've been successful in music, television and film. Does each provide a different kind of creative outlet for you?
It does, and they're all different. Music, for me, is me. It's the way that I can express my being. It's very personal to me, and also it's a way that I can relate to other people as well. People don't want to feel like they're all by themselves, and that's what my music does for me and that's what it does for other people. But with acting, I get a chance to challenge myself, to bring honesty and truth to someone completely different than me, and that's very difficult to do. I love the challenge of that.

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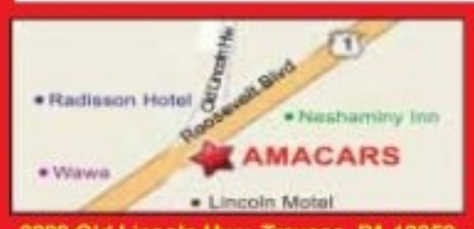

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SMALL PACKAGES, GOOD THINGS

Nintendo's 3DS has gone from a lackluster launch to being another popular entry in their dominance of portable console gaming. Titles hit store shelves on the regular and their digital marketplace is inching close to Apple territory. Let's review some games you can play on the toilet.

'Luigi's Mansion: Dark Moon'

System: 3DS
Company: Nintendo
Grade: ●●●●●

Ah, good ol' Luigi. Mario's brother has gotten the short shrift for years. He's the klutzy one, the one who is constantly told, "Just be more like your brother!" Well, this regular Joe finally has a 3DS game to call his own and it is one of the system's best titles. It's a spooky and hilarious ghost-hunting sim set inside a series of haunted mansions.

Mario's brother is back. / NINTENDO

'Harmoknight'

System: 3DS
Company: Game Freak/ Nintendo
Grade: ●●●●●

Harmoknight is an unusual take on music games, pairing the rhythm-based gameplay of something like PaRappa the Rapper with side-scrolling action. Essentially, it's like a Mario title you control by pushing buttons along to the beat. The graphics are simple, but the game boasts a striking amount of content. There are hidden areas, boss battles and even guest appearances by your old friend Pokemon.

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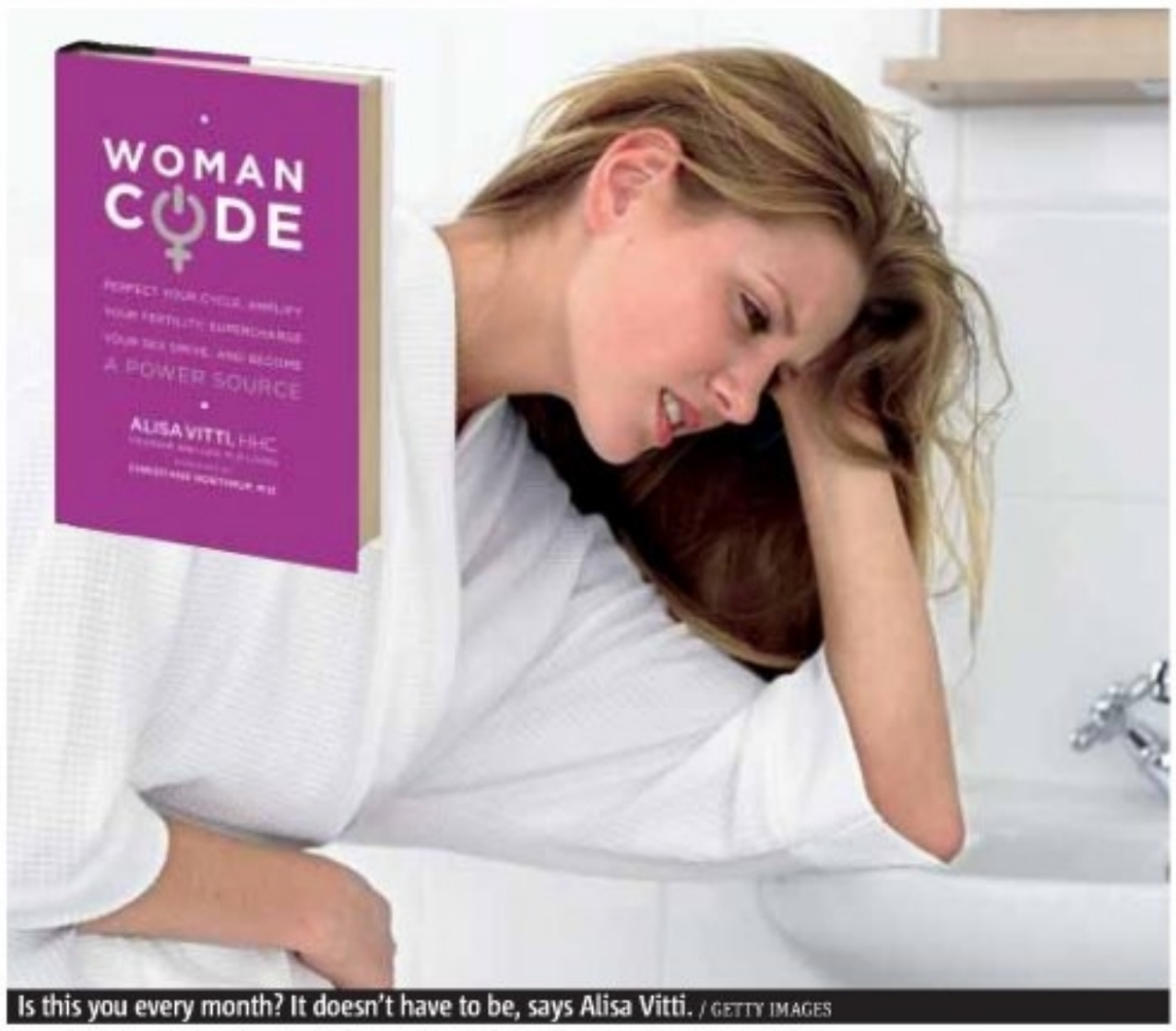

Is this you every month? It doesn't have to be, says Alisa Vitti. / GETTY IMAGES

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Health. Your period shouldn't cause you misery, expert says.

If you thought PMS, bloating and zits were all just the lowlights of being a woman, Alisa Vitti would like you to think again.

"What's normal is to feel great all month, to have natural conception, not to have postpartum depression," says Vitti, a women's health expert and the author of "WomanCode: Perfect Your Cycle, Amplify Your Fertility, Supercharge Your Sex Drive and Become a Power Source." "What's normal is a sex drive that increases as you age. What's normal is a metabolism that's helping you maintain your healthy weight. Anything that's not that isn't normal."

If you're often in hormonal hell, Vitti has a plan to get you back on track — and it starts with your diet.

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

What to avoid

Soy, specifically soy protein isolate: "Most soy products are highly concentrated in soy protein isolate," Vitti says, "which is full of concentrated estrogen and exacerbates hormonal symptoms." If you must have soy, choose fermented options, including miso paste and tempeh, in moderation. Tofu is OK in small quantities, as long as it's organic and GMO-free.

Dairy: "The casein in dairy has been shown to build up a plaque on the small intestine," Vitti says, which blocks the absorption of vital micronutrients. Concerned about calcium? Vitti's plan eliminates dairy, but also adds in more foods that are good sources of calcium, like kale, bok choy and sunflower seeds.

Gluten: "Wheat-based products cause such inflammation in the intestine," she says.

What to load up on

Fermented foods: "Fermented foods provide the body with probiotics, which help you absorb more nutrients. They also contain Indole-3-carbinol, which breaks down estrogen."

Green juices: "You're getting high levels of antioxidants that help protect the ovaries."

Sweet potatoes: "I love them for the vitamin A to help with your liver."

Pasture-fed eggs (with the yolks): "They help the body make progesterone, which keeps PMS symptoms away."

Avocados: "[They have] EFAs that keep our hormones really, really healthy," Vitti says.

Spinach, kale and collard greens: "I love dark, leafy greens for the calcium and magnesium that help our body utilize hormones as we're producing them."

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Today in medicine

Infant mortality rates level off

Location of study: U.S.
Study subjects: Clinical data
Results: A University of Alabama at Birmingham study published in Pediatrics found that levels of infant and neonatal mortality have leveled off over the past decade.
Significance: The increased survival rate was due to improved obstetrical and neonatal care in keeping more premature and low birth weight infants alive.

Infant mortality rates are leveling off. / GETTY IMAGES, FUSE

Hypertension linked to menopause

Location of study: Netherlands
Study subjects: 853 women
Results: Researchers found a link between women who had hypertensive diseases during pregnancy and those who suffered more severe menopausal symptoms, such as hot flashes and night sweats. The study, published online in Menopause, the journal of The North American Menopause Society, is the first to look at this possible link.
Significance: Researchers aren't yet sure whether this association applies to all middle-aged women or just menopausal ones.

But, high blood pressure during pregnancy could be a risk factor for cardiovascular disease later in life.

Going bald might be bad for your heart

Location of study: Japan
Study subjects: Meta study of 40,000 men
Results: Bald or extensively balding men were found to be 44 percent more likely to develop coronary artery disease, but only if they were losing hair at the top or crown of their head, not dealing with a receding hairline.
Significance: Baldness may signal a body's resistance to insulin, which can lead to diseases, chronic inflammation or heightened sensitivity to testosterone — all of which are linked to heart disease.

The oil you choose matters

Location of study: North America
Study subjects: 121 adults at risk for metabolic syndrome
Results: A recent study via the American Heart Association found that canola oil and high-oleic canola oil reduce abdominal fat when part of a heart-healthy diet for weight maintenance. Study subjects were all given a daily smoothie containing one of five oils. Those who consumed canola or high-oleic canola oils on a daily basis for four weeks lowered their belly fat by 1.6 percent.
Significance: Metabolic syndrome can increase the risk of heart disease, stroke and Type 2 diabetes. Reducing abdominal fat decreases these health risks. LINDA CLARKE

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Safe biking tips

Don't forget your helmet! / GETTY IMAGES, PURESTOCK

Tips. If your wheels aren't on the subway or the bus, make sure you're riding the right way.

With spring officially upon us, legions of urban commuters are beginning to shed their coats and spend more time outside. Commuting by bicycle can be a great way to savor the sunshine and jump-start your fitness routine while being eco-friendly. Inexperienced city cyclists might feel intimidated by busy streets, but it's easy to gain confidence. Bike mechanic Max Boyajian is familiar with the challenges cyclists face.

Fill 'er up

If a bike hasn't been used through the winter, the tires will need to be refilled, he says. Most bike shops offer free air.

Keep calm

Even if they are following the rules of the road, city cyclists are bound to get honked at by irritated drivers. Don't let it rattle you, and don't provoke drivers unnecessarily. "You've got to learn how to be honked at," Boyajian says.

NATALIE SHURE
letters@metro.us

Tip

Watch for parked cars

Parked drivers can accidentally open their doors into an oncoming cyclist.

P.S.: Cyclists have the right to ride in the middle of a lane.

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Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20. You are always desirous of acknowledgement, but you could crave it more than usual today.

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Even though you'll take most of your involvements seriously, you'll still be philosophical.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20. One of your greater satisfactions will come from working with another on something of mutual importance.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22. It is advisable to get your mate's opinion before making a major decision.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Don't think that you won't feel guilty if you fail to use your time productively. Get rid of your excuses and do the right thing from the get-go.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Business and pleasure can make a compatible mix, provided you have respect for both and split your time.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. The possibility for doing what you set out to is very strong, provided you sustain your motivation.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. If you get into a situation that is too narrow or constricted, you could be extremely uncomfortable.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. The best asset you possess is your ability to make the most of whatever you are dealing with.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Treat your colleagues with respect, but don't let them take over something that you're already handling adeptly.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. If you have to work on something that requires deep concentration, do your best to find quiet surroundings.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Because your aspirations are likely to be more practical, realizing your hopes is more likely.

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Sudoku: Easy and hard

		5			8		9	2
			1		6		8	
	3	8			5			
		3	5				1	
9		6				2		7
	5				9	3		
			9			8	2	
	7		2		1			
5	2		3			9		

	3		8	2			4	
	2		6					7
4					3	9		
				7	1			4
2			3		4			8
5			2	9				
		3	1					9
8					6		7	
	6			3	7		1	

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Layout not starstruck enough

Since when does the picture of the entertainment writer rank as being bigger than anyone else's? They don't even do that on Page Six, so why would you? Granted, I really enjoy her column, but I'd much rather see the photos of the celebs that go along with her stories rather than her (no offense).

P.L. STANTON, VIA EMAIL

Take care of yourself or the feds will do it for you

RE: "IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM, JOIN 'EM," (METRO, APRIL 2)
So letter writer Joseph Dupont wants to circumvent the Affordable Care Act by not getting health insurance until he is ill. Sounds to me like his aspiration is to be a moocher that he and his fellow conservatives rail against. Remember, the idea of the individual mandate was a conservative idea to require people to be responsible and not shift costs onto their fellow citizens. It is only because President Barack Obama promoted the ACA that they think personal responsibility is inappropriate and somehow will "destroy the nation."

EDWIN ANDREWS, VIA EMAIL

When seeing double is a good thing

THANK YOU!!!. I was so bummed not having two sudoku puzzles a day. I HATED having to go to the other two US Metro to try to get my daily fix. Keep 'em coming.

ALPHIE THORN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them a brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Crossword

Across
1 Nod or wink
7 Provoke
10 Work part-time
14 Have ambitions
15 Cote murmur
16 Melville work
17 Male flower part
18 Topeka loc.
19 Arab VIP
20 Luxuriating predator? (2 wds.)
23 Water lily
26 "— So Shy"
27 Pushes ahead
28 Mother of Horus
29 Dory mover
30 Library abbr.
31 Schoolboy
32 Hot Springs st.
33 Inside scoop
37 FBI acronym
38 LI doubled
39 Polished off
40 ORD regulators
41 Fabrics or cats
43 Autumn color
44 In shape
45 Late evening
46 Campers, briefly
47 Robin's domain
48 Standish stand-in
51 Big green parrot
52 Squalid
53 Kind of talk (hyph.)
56 Ms. Bombeck
57 "Norma —"
58 Derby hat
62 Open to debate
63 Andy Capp's quaff
64 Mystery
65 Jan. 1 song word
66 —de mer
67 More than dislike

Down
1 Stockholm carrier
2 Hobby ender
3 Dean's-list fig.
4 Rain cloud
5 Fields of study
6 Optical device
7 More yucky
8 Reddish horses
9 Hong —
10 Climber's need
11 Peel and Samms
12 Watered silk
13 Ham and sausage
21 Tan slacks
22 — under (overwhelmed)
23 Delicate hue
24 Honshu port
25 Kind of wave
29 Rigel's constellation
30 Campaign quest
32 Put stress on
33 Butterflies-to-be
34 Bid
35 Cummerbund site
36 Spruce
42 Say over and over
46 Repair a boot
47 Fool
48 Attention-getters
49 Bad, bad Brown of song
50 Pythias' friend
51 Tailless marsupial
52 Monotonous hum
54 Zoo transport
55 Not yet up and about
59 Sweater sz.
60 911 responder
61 Willard's pet

yesterday's answer

S	A	S	H	■	G	A	S	P	S	■	K	E	P	I
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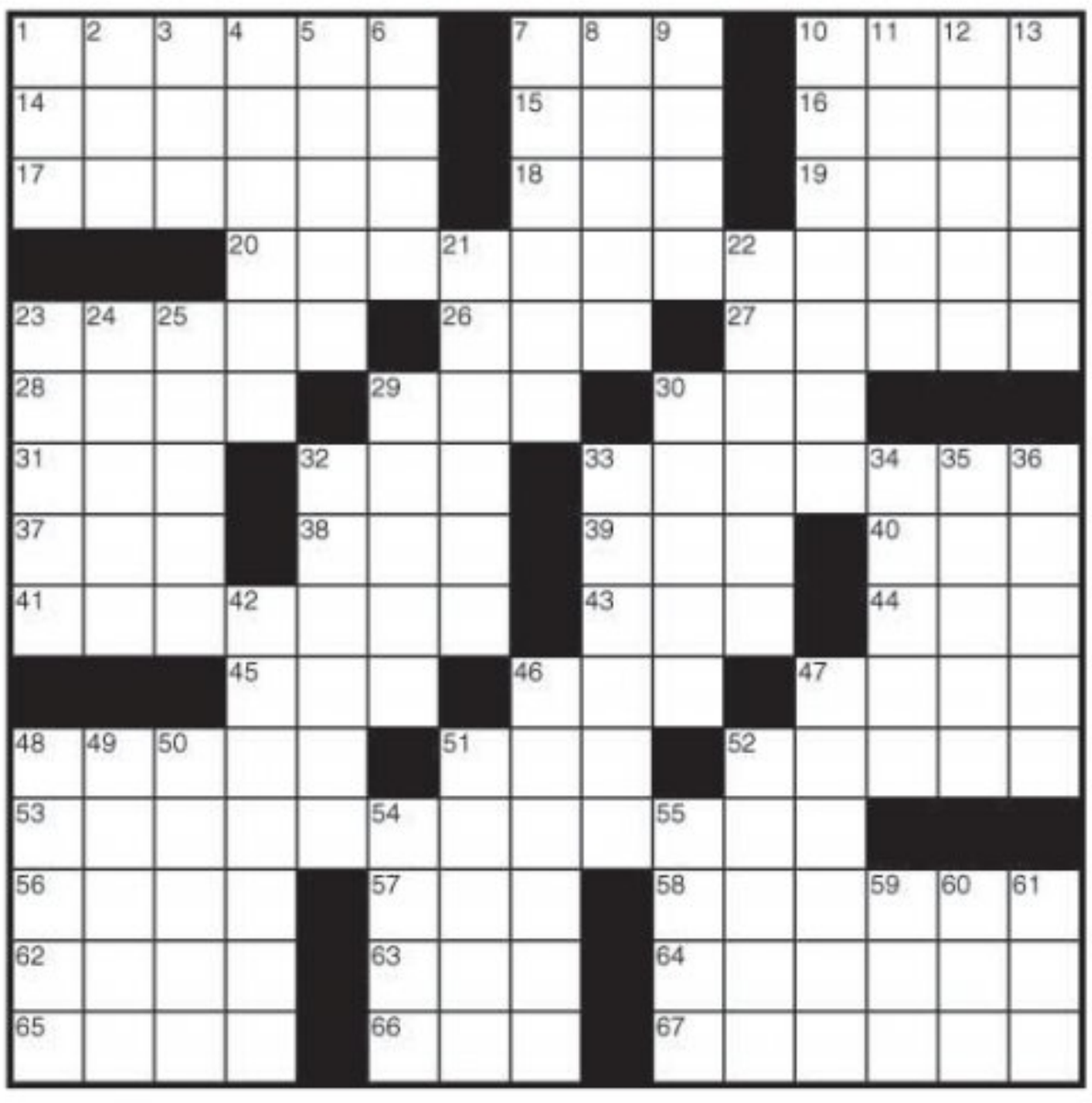

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The big business of dressing the baby bump

Is Kim Kardashian launching a new maternity leather line? We wouldn't be surprised. / CHRIS MCKAY, WIREIMAGE

High heels and tight dresses are staples of Kardashian's maternity wardrobe. JAMES DEVANEY, WIREIMAGE

Forget jeans with an elasticized waist when you can wear a pencil skirt. / JB LACROIX, WIREIMAGE

Fashion. Never mind comfort — Kim Kardashian's maternity wardrobe is an exercise in branding.

Just when you thought her maternity choices couldn't look any more uncomfortable, Kim Kardashian went shopping in a body-con dress, its leather stretched to the absolute limit, and stilettos — an outfit that would make even the average not-pregnant woman look like she's trying too hard.

But before we get into her pregnancy style, let's establish these facts:

1. The Kardashians are unbeatable at the game of being famous for being famous.

2. The Kardashians have been known to mine their personal lives for reality TV and publicity.

3. Kim is a Kardashian.

Now that we've got that out of the way, let's look at that leather. The tighter the squeeze around Kim's bump and the higher the heels, the more we talk about it. It's a pop culture moment that advances the plotline of Kim's celebrity.

The average pregnant woman dresses for comfort. But now, the average famous pregnant woman dresses strategically, as the bump becomes another opportunity for personal branding (Jessica Simpson), record sales (Beyonce) and public obsession (Miranda Kerr). Yes, Kim claims flats hurt her back and that heels are the most comfortable for her. But the tape around her feet says otherwise. It's not hard to imagine the ways she'll push this idea as her final trimester approaches. What next? Hot pants and a bustier? Her marketing team is probably taking notes.

KENYA HUNT
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Learn how to put your

Prepare for spring showers. / NKCDC

Home. Sustainable 19125 is holding a rain barrel workshop this weekend.

If you visit the Garden Center on Frankford Avenue this Sunday, you are bound to see neighborhood folks straddling large plastic drums. While it may look like they're wrestling beer kegs, they're actually building eco-friendly and sustainable rain barrels.

The DIY Rain Barrel Workshop is hosted by Sustainable 19125, a local nonprofit under the umbrella of the New Kensington Community Development Corporation, that works to clean up zip code 19125. The event will teach neighbors how to turn plain old rain into a useful, renewable resource, and participants will get to build very own water-conserving rain barrels.

"A rain barrel is one way you can help combat the storm water issue here in Philly, and conserve water, too," says Elizabeth Rosser of NKCDC.

Rain Barrel 101

No more lazy raindrops

Usually when it rains, the water just rolls off a building, not doing much of anything. A rain barrel puts that water to work: now you've got a huge drum holding rain that can be used for watering your lawn, garden or window boxes. It lets you control where the water goes and how it's put to use, and can even reduce the risk of property damage.

Run off the runoff

Rain barrels also cut down on the amount of runoff that pollutes rivers. Normally, when storm water drains into the sewers, it brings with it all the oils, debris and trash that it encounters. "Philadelphia uses a combined sewer system. This means that during big rain events, storm water runoff can overflow sewer pipes, causing sewage, runoff and other pollutants to make their way into the river," Rosser says.

Make it pretty

If you're not sold on this whole barrel idea, consider this: Last year the Mt. Airy area set up 20 of them along Germantown Avenue, and they had a great solution for the cumbersome, plain-looking barrels. The crew over at Mt. Airy Art Garage painted them in vibrant hues.

If you go

DIY Rain Barrel Workshop

April 7, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
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lazy rainwater to work

Sustainable 19125 shows neighbors how to build their own rain barrels. / NKCDC

Housing market. Dip in delinquencies on home-related loans

U.S. consumer delinquencies on home-related loans fell in the fourth quarter of 2012, which could indicate a slow recovery is under way in the housing market, the American Bankers Association said yesterday.

Delinquencies on property improvement loans, home equity loans and home equity lines of credit all fell during the quarter, the group said.

It was the first time since the fourth quarter of 2011 that delinquencies had dipped in all three categories, according to the ABA, which also tracked late payments for bank-provided credit cards, auto loans and other consumer loans.

The group does not track delinquency rates for traditional mortgage payments. It defines a delinquency as a payment that is 30 days or more past due.

"While home-related delinquencies remain at elevated levels, even one quarter of declines could signal the start of a slow but steady improvement," James Chessen, chief economist at the ABA, said in a statement.

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Lucky Old Souls
The Sunflower Truck Stop
12pm: XPN Philly Local Wednesdays at The Porch
4/3: Dante Bucci, world-renowned Handpan player.

THURSDAY
6pm: Free Fitness at The Porch
4/4: BodyRock Bootcamp

FRIDAY
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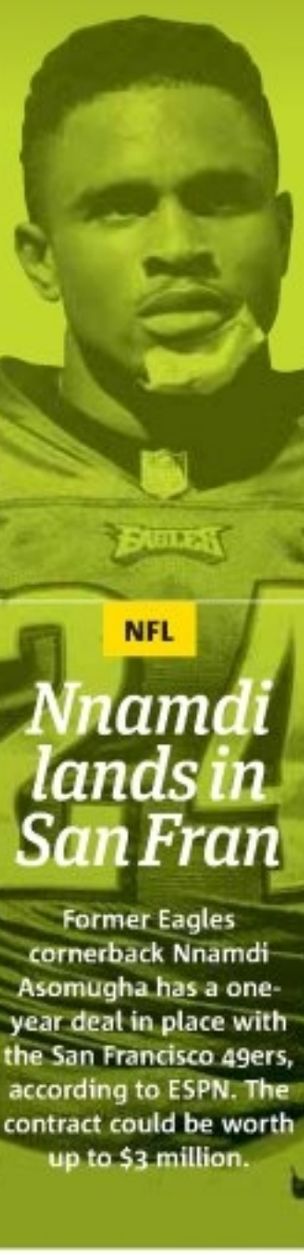
3 SPORTS



NFL

Nnamdi lands in San Fran

Former Eagles cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha has a one-year deal in place with the San Francisco 49ers, according to ESPN. The contract could be worth up to $3 million.

Doc attempts to even series with Braves

MLB. The Phillies turn to the right-handed ace after losing to the Braves in the 2013 season opener.

Halladay takes the mound tonight for the Phillies.
GETTY IMAGES

The Phillies lost their opener, but don't panic. It's one game out of 162, as Chase Utley made sure to remind everyone after Monday night's 7-5 loss in Atlanta.

"Listen, obviously you want to win the first game, but I think we have a few more to go," Utley said.

Yes, the Phillies lost to the Braves. Yes, Cole Hamels wasn't quite the ace everyone expected in his first start. No, the sky isn't falling.

The Phillies' offense put five runs on the board and clubbed 10 hits, including a home run and triple from Utley.

The second baseman looked like his old self, going 3-for-5 and racking up three RBIs on the night. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough. Hamels (0-1) took the loss after giving up five runs on seven hits (three homers).

"You have to tip your cap," Utley said. "We had some opportunities there to tie the game — we just didn't get the big hit. We will ... stay ready to rock."

The Phils had yesterday off. They'll get back at it tonight in Atlanta as Roy Halladay makes his 2013 debut.

Halladay struggled in spring training. His velocity was way down, and the pitcher isn't getting any younger — he turns 36 next month.

Worried? Don't be. His skipper isn't.

"I expect him to go out there and pitch, keep us in the game and give us a chance to win," Charlie Manuel said. METRO

Fly balls

The Phillies enjoyed an off day yesterday, but the team still made some news.

- **All tuned in.** PHL17 announced that Monday night's game in Atlanta set a new record for TV ratings on Opening Day. According to Nielsen, the game averaged an 11.5 household rating, the highest in 17 years.
- **Making moves.** The Phils claimed outfielder Ezequiel Carrera off waivers yesterday from the Cleveland Indians. The team designated outfielder Ender Inciarte for assignment. The 25-year-old Carrera hit .272 and scored 20 runs in 48 games last season for the Indians.
- **Broken Doc?** Roy Halladay is coming off a shaky spring, where he went 2-1 with a 6.06 ERA in six starts. He was also pulled from a game due to a stomach virus.

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The Flyers lost to Montreal, 4-1, back in February. / GETTY IMAGES

Flyers. It's do or die hockey for Orange and Black right now

The Flyers are putting a new twist on the phrase, "Win one, lose one."

It seems each time they win a game or seem to be making up ground in the Eastern Conference's suddenly crowded playoff picture, they lose a player.

Penalty-killing specialist Max Talbot is the latest to go down, breaking his left leg in a collision along the boards in Sunday's 3-2 overtime win over the Caps. He's most likely out for the season, barring an expected deep playoff run.

Talbot joins a M*A*S*H unit that already included defensemen Niklas Grossmann (upper body injury), Braydon Coburn (separated shoulder), Andrej Meszaros (torn rotator cuff) and Danny Briere (concussion).

GM Paul Holmgren has been working the phones in anticipation of today's trade deadline. He's already bolstered the lineup by picking up defenseman Kent Huskins from Detroit and trading Harry Zolnierczyk to Anaheim for enforcer Jay Rosehill.

Whether anything else develops — San Jose's impending free agent winger Ryan Clowe is reportedly highest on their wish list — Peter Laviolette's club knows it still has work to do.

"We're feeling good where we are," said Scott Hartnell. "Our play's been better the last two games. I think it's do or die right now. But it's fun hockey because it's such a close race." JON MARKS

Loose pucks

Flyers get a rematch with Montreal today (7:30 p.m.) at the Wells Fargo Center.

- **Missing out.** Scott Hartnell missed the last game— a 4-1 loss in Montreal — and the two teams will meet again April 15 in Montreal.
- **Trade winds.** Flyers dealt for 6-foot-3, 215-pound enforcer Jay Rosehill from Anaheim late last night in exchange for Harry Zolnierczyk.
- **Looking ahead.** After tonight the Flyers head right to Toronto, where they'll take on James van Riemsdyk and the Leafs tomorrow, before heading to Winnipeg (April 6) and Long Island (April 9). By the time they return home next Thursday to meet Ottawa they'll have nine games remaining.

MLB

Cano signs with Jay-Z

Robinson Cano has dumped agent Scott Boras for Jay-Z.

Jay-Z's Roc Nation announced yesterday that it was getting into the sports representation business. METRO

NFL

Palmer traded

Quarterback Carson Palmer was traded from the Raiders to the Cardinals in a deal for just a seventh-round 2013 draft pick. METRO

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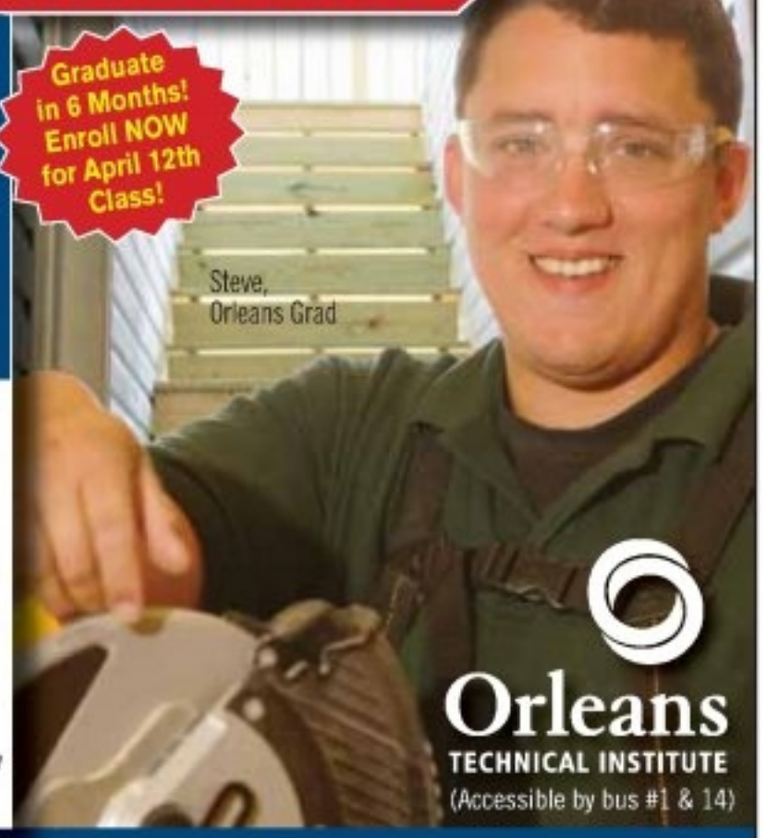

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Peters: 'No. 1 offensive lineman in the league'

Jason Peters missed all of 2012 after rupturing his Achilles tendon.
GETTY IMAGES

NFL. The Eagles left tackle declared himself 100 percent ready for the 2013 season.

Cross left tackle off the Eagles' list of concerns as the team heads into the 2013 season.

Jason Peters, speaking to reporters for the first time since rupturing his Achilles tendon last March, put his health at 100 percent. In fact, he's been that way since January. Chip Kelly held his first official workout yesterday as Eagles coach, and Peters was a full participant.

"I'm not going to go out there and I can't go 100 percent, and be back where I was before I got hurt," Peters said. "I'm going to go out there and give it all I got."

Peters, largely considered the best left tackle in football, also believes he can return to All-Pro form.

The Eagles' offensive line struggled mightily without Peters (and others) anchoring it. He knows his presence up front will make a huge difference.

"I'm the No. 1 offensive lineman in the league," Peters said. "It [not being out there last season] was a big difference." **MIKE GREGER**

Quoted

"I'm not going to go out there and I can't go 100 percent, and be back where I was before I got hurt."

Jason Peters, updating his health

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College basketball.

Ware makes return to Louisville campus

Kevin Ware is walking, one step at a time.

The sophomore guard returned to Louisville's campus on crutches yesterday, two days after the world watched Ware break his right leg on national TV. Ware wrote on Facebook that "the first step is always the hardest one to take."

His teammates are preparing to face Wichita State on Saturday in Atlanta for the Final Four. Coach Rick Pitino said he wants Ware to travel with the team, but an official decision won't come until today — after Ware's doctors are consulted.

Ware's injury was one of the most gruesome in sports history, as his leg completely shattered and caused many of his teammates to cry or throw up. Ware was carted off the court, then told the team to "just go win the game."

METRO

Ware, right, before the injury.
GETTY IMAGES

Shock the world?

The Shockers have the longest odds, at 12-1, to win it all. Louisville is the odds-on favorite.

- Wichita State should be well-prepped for Louisville's trap, having played against VCU's "Havoc" offense earlier in the year.

Gulf Coast coach to USC

Andy Enfield has parlayed his Cinderella success at Florida Gulf Coast into a new job. Enfield, who led the Eagles to the Sweet 16, will be introduced as the new head coach at Southern California today. The coach will sign a six-year contract, according to ESPN.com. / PAIGE OZAROSKI, METRO

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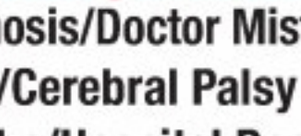

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